

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:361
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2001
SHELL STAKE IN IBP
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the new-item captioned, 'Shell Keen on Buying Stake in IBP' appearing in the Times of India dated January 24, 2001 ; and

(b) if so, the circumstances which led to the decision to privatise the said IBP Limited ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government had in September, 1996 referred IBP Limited alongwith other PSUs to the Public Sector Disinvestment Commission. The Commission in its Fifth Report presented to the Government in November, 1997 recommended disinvestment of 33.9% of the equity of IBP in favour of a strategic buyer. The Government have accorded approval in-principle in October, 2000 to the disinvestment of 33.6% of the equity through strategic sale and to retain 26% of the equity.